

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/737,760

Examiner

Mark A Mais

Applicant(s)

MATSUNAGA ET AL.

Art Unit

2664

-- **Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 3 IDSs
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy was filed on March 23, 2001, which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements (IDSs) submitted on April 10, 2001, March 17, 2003, and August 9 & 20, 2004 (identical), were filed after the mailing date of the Application on December 18, 2000. The submissions are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56 and 1.97. Accordingly, the examiner considered all of the IDSs.

Drawings

3. The replacement drawings were received on March 23, 2001. These drawings are acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-32 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The Examiner has not found a transfer control device for transferring data among a plurality of nodes connected to a bus (IEEE 1394) which determines when a reset (a reset clears node topology information) has occurred during a data transfer and compares command packets, specifically the data transfer request portion of the packet, wherein the command packets were transferred from one node to the receiving node before the reset occurred, and wherein the contents of a second command packet (the data transfer request) with the contents of the first command packet (data transfer request), and restarting data transfer at the same point when the

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reset occurred by determining when the contents of the two command packets (data transfer requests) are the same.

The nearest art of record is to Ozawa, JPA 2000-32005, and Kobayashi, JPA 2001-86132 (both provided by Applicant in IDSs), which each determine when a reset occurs by detecting the topology change [see, for example, **Ozawa, abstract**] or detecting the reset request [**Kobayashi, paragraph 0075**]. Furthermore, the restart of data transfer occurs either at the beginning of transfer [**Ozawa, abstract**] or, after checking the Node IDs of the source and destination [**Kobayashi, paragraph 0076**], using an address offset stored when detecting the reset request, in order to access the saved data in a buffer of the receiving device [**Kobayashi, see paragraphs 0075-0076**].

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

(a) Matsuda (USP 6,389,496) Bridge including portals with ability to redefine network topology.

(b) Zou (USP 6,160,796) Method and system for updating device identification and status information after a local bus reset within a home audio/video network.

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8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark A Mais whose telephone number is (571) 272-3138. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:00-4:30.

9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on (571) 272-3134. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

December 14, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. Mais', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.